## TFU

#### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

David R. Hall, et al.

Serial No.:

10/605,493

Filed:

**October 2, 2003** 

For:

**Improved Electrical Contact** 

For Downhole Drilling Networks

Art Unit No.: 2833

**Examiner:** 

Docket No.: 66.0037

## TRANSMITTAL LETTER

November 2, 2004

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office 220 20th Street South Customer Window, Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03 Arlington VA 22202

Dear Sir:

#### **CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

37 C.F.R. 1.10

I hereby certify that this correspondence is in a Federal Express package receipt no. 792768486837 addressed to: U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, 220 20<sup>th</sup> Street South, Customer Window, Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03, Arlington VA 22202 on the date indicated below.

11/2/04

Date

Signature

Enclosed in connection with the above-captioned application are:

- 1. Transmittal Letter
- 2. Information Disclosure Statement
- 3. PTO/SB/08A Information Disclosure Statement By Applicant
- 4. Copies of non-U.S. Patents
- 5. Return Receipt Card

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the \$180 fee under 37 CFR 1.17(p), and any additional fees that may be required at any time during the prosecution of this application without specific authorization, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 180584.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffery E. Daly Reg. No. 44,640

Customer No. 26932

Grant Prideco, L.P.
400 No. Sam Houston Parkway East
Suite 900

Houston, TX 77060 Ph: 281.878.5658

Fax: 281.878.5720

e-mail: jeff.daly@grantprideco.com

#### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

David R. Hall, et al.

Serial No.:

10/605,493

Filed:

October 2, 2003

For:

**Improved Electrical Contact** 

For Downhole Drilling Networks

Art Unit No.: 2833

**Examiner:** 

Tho Dac Ta

Docket No.: 66.0037

November 2, 2004

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office 220 20th Street South, Customer Window, Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03 Arlington VA 22202

Dear Sir:

#### **CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

37 C.F.R. 1.10

I hereby certify that this correspondence is in a Federal Express package receipt no. 792768486837 addressed to: U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, 220 20th Street South, Customer Window, Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03, Arlington VA 22202 on the date indicated below.

11/2/04

Date

Signature

### INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT **UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, it is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement be entered and the references listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A be considered by the Examiner and made of record. Copies of the non-U.S. listed references are enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), this Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that no other possibly material information as defined 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b) exists. Furthermore, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(h), the filing of this statement shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b). This Information Disclosure Statement is filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97 (c). The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the \$180 fee under 37 CFR 1.17(p), and any additional fees that may be required at any time during the prosecution of this application without specific authorization, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 180584. If there are any questions concerning the above, please contact the undersigned at (281) 878-5658.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffery E. Daly Reg. No. 44,640

Customer No. 26932

Grant Prideco, L.P. 400 No. Sam Houston Parkway East Suite 900 Houston, TX 77060

Ph: 281.878.5658 Fax: 281.878.5720

e-mail: jeff.daly@grantprideco.com

PTO/SB/08A (04-03)

Approved for use through 04/30/2003. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Under the PaperWork Reduction Act 2195, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 489 FHADEMA

Sheet

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

of

2

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

(Use as many sneets as necessary)

Complete if Known			
Application Number	10/605,493	<u> </u>	
Filing Date	10/2/03		
First Named Inventor	Hall et al.		
Art Unit	2833		
Examiner Name	Tho Dac Ta		
Attorney Docket Number	66.0037		

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Document Number  Number-Kind Code <sup>2 (If known)</sup>	Publication Date  MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear		
		<sup>US-</sup> 3,518,609	06-30-1970	Fontenot, Jr.			
		US- 3,693,133	09-19-1972	Harbonn et al.			
		<sup>US-</sup> 4,676,563	06-30-1987	Curlett et al.			
-: ··· ·		<sup>US-</sup> 4,690,212	09-01-1987	Termohlen			
		<sup>US-</sup> 4,799,544	01-24-1989	Curlett			
		<sup>US-</sup> 6,367,564	09-09-2002	Mills et al.			
		<sup>US-</sup> 6,688,396	02-10-2004	Floerke et al.			
		US-					
		US-					
		US-					
		US-		·			
		US-					
		US-		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
		US-					
•		US-					
		US-					
		US-			<del>-  </del>		
		US-					
<u>.</u>		US-			<del>-</del>		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Cite Initials* No.1		Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	
_		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> ( <i>if known</i> )	MM-DD-YYYY			Τ <sup>6</sup>
		GB 2361113 A	10-10-2001	Tronic Limited		
	<u> </u>	WO 01/21932 A1	03-29-2001	Vermeer Manufacturing Company		
					<del></del>	<u> </u>
						<u> </u>
						<u> </u>
	1					

Examiner	Date	
Signature	Considered	

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at <a href="https://www.uspto.gov">www.uspto.gov</a> or MPEP 901.04. Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Substitute for form 1449/PTO		Complete if Known			
, Substitute to form 1449/110				Application Number	10/605,493
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE				Filing Date	10/2/03
STA	STATEMENT BY APPLICANT		First Named Inventor	Hall et al.	
(Use as many sheets as necessary)			00000077/	Art Unit	2833
(Oso as many sheets as necessary)		Examiner Name	Tho Dac Ta		
Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	66.0037

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>		
		USPTO Office Action for U.S. Patent Application 10/430,734, filed 05-06-2003; mailed 09-21-2004.			
Examiner		Date			

Examiner	Date	* · · · · · · ·
Signature	Considered	

<sup>\*</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 120 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.